



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 524

January Session, 2001

Substitute House Bill No. 6642

House of Representatives, April 30, 2001

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. LAWLOR of the 99th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING TRAINING OF CASINO PERSONNEL FOR EMPLOYMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 53-278g of the general statutes is repealed and the following
2 is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) Nothing in sections 53-278a to 53-278g, inclusive, shall be
4 construed to prohibit the publication of an advertisement of, or the
5 operation of, or participation in, a state lottery, pari-mutuel betting at
6 race tracks licensed by the state, off-track betting conducted by the
7 state or a promotional drawing for a prize or prizes, conducted for
8 advertising purposes by any person, firm or corporation other than a
9 retail grocer or retail grocery chain, wherein members of the general
10 public may participate without making any purchase or otherwise
11 paying or risking credit, money, or any other tangible thing of value.

12 (b) The Mashantucket Pequot tribe [, or its agent,] and the Mohegan

13 Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, or their agents, may use and possess at
14 any location within the state, solely for the purpose of training
15 individuals in skills required for employment by the tribe or testing a
16 gambling device, any gambling device which the [tribe is] tribes are
17 authorized to utilize on [its reservation] their reservations pursuant to
18 the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act; provided no money or
19 other thing of value shall be paid to any person as a result of the
20 operation of such gambling device in the course of such training or
21 testing at locations outside of the reservation of the tribe. Any person
22 receiving such training or testing such device may use any such device
23 in the course of such training or testing. Whenever either of said tribes
24 intends to use and possess at any location within the state any such
25 gambling device for the purpose of testing such device, the tribe shall
26 give prior notice of such testing to the Division of Special Revenue.

PS *Joint Favorable*

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Affected Agencies: Various Criminal Justice Agencies

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact on criminal justice agencies relating to a potential change in offenses involving engaging in gambling, or to knowingly own, possess, buy, rent, store, repair, or transport gambling devices.

OLR BILL ANALYSIS

sHB 6642

AN ACT CONCERNING TRAINING OF CASINO PERSONNEL FOR EMPLOYMENT.**SUMMARY:**

This bill allows the Mohegans, like the Mashantucket Pequots, to use gambling devices to train people off their reservation for jobs at the casino by exempting the school or program from the prohibitions on gambling devices. The bill allows the tribe or its agent to use and have the devices for training purposes so long as the use (1) is not for monetary gain off the reservation and (2) is permitted on the reservation by the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA). It also allows people in training to use the devices during training.

The bill allows testing of gambling devices off the reservations under the same restrictions that apply to training. It requires the tribes to notify the Division of Special Revenue (DSR) when they intend to use or possess the devices for testing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

BACKGROUND***Use of Gambling Devices on Reservations***

By law it is a misdemeanor to engage in gambling, or to knowingly own, possess, buy, rent, store, repair, or transport gambling devices. But under IGRA, Connecticut must permit gambling on Indian reservations provided certain federal statutory requirements are met. Because federal law supercedes conflicting state law, the state's prohibitions on gambling and gambling devices do not apply to a casino school on a reservation.

Legislative History

On March 29, the House referred this bill (File 54) to the Judiciary Committee, which added the testing provision and the DSR notification requirement.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 21 Nay 0

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 38 Nay 0